INSPIRE MIWP 2020 - 2024

11th MIG meeting - 18 June 2020

Main changes in the new version

- Comments from the virtual consultation considered
- Updated narrative emphasising parallel implementation of the 3 strands
- Simplified and streamlined approach
  - Actions reduced to six
  - Updated timeline

Main objectives

1. Develop a **future vision** for the role of INSPIRE in the Green Deal Data space
2. Define the **INSPIRE "jewels"** – those data sets/themes, for which tangible benefits for environment policy and the implementation of the European Green Deal can be expected
3. Develop an implementation plan to **focus implementation efforts to maximise availability, ensure interoperability and reach pan-European spatial coverage** for this well-defined set of priority data
4. Continue work on **simplifying and mainstreaming the technical requirements** of the INSPIRE Directive, taking into account emerging paradigms, standards and technologies and their usability for the Green Deal data space
5. Define the **transition from the current legal framework to a digital ecosystem** for environment and sustainability

3 areas of work

1. A digital ecosystem for the environment and sustainability (objective 1)
2. Towards a common implementation landing zone (objectives 2-4)
3. GreenData4All (objective 5)

All areas of work will start in parallel in 2020

6 core actions

1.1 Towards a digital ecosystem for the environment and sustainability

2.1 Need-driven data prioritisation

2.2 Roadmap for priority-driven implementation

2.3 Simplification of INSPIRE implementation

2.4 Central infrastructure components

3.1 GreenData4all initiative

1.1 Towards a digital ecosystem for the environment and sustainability

- **Issues**
  - Emerging requirements for common EU data spaces in general and the Green Deal data space in particular
  - The current architecture of INSPIRE is outdated and does not reflect the new realities (mainly related to the emergence of new data sources and new technologies)
  - INSPIRE is often seen as a monolithic infrastructure with still few links to the external world
  - Emerging technologies, data sources and approaches have to be included in INSPIRE to ensure that the infrastructure evolves into a self-sustainable data ecosystem, in line with the larger vision of the Green Deal data space

1.1 Towards a digital ecosystem for the environment and sustainability

- **Proposed actions**
  - New reference architecture for the INSPIRE infrastructure as part of the Green Deal data space
  - Experiment and summarise lessons from the use of modern technologies and standards through sandboxing
  - Create a stack of ‘enabling’ good practices for data provision (based on OGC APIs, different encodings: GeoJSON, GeoPackage, binary - e.g. pbf, VectorTiles), discoverability (through search engines) and combination with other sources (citizen data, private data, research)
- **Team**
  - Lead: JRC
  - Contributors: MS, solution providers, standardisation bodies, other actors in the Green Deal data space

2.1 Need-driven data prioritisation

- **Issues**
  - Clear priorities need to be identified based on the concrete needs of the stakeholders (European Commission, Sustainable Development Goals, Community legislation, etc.).
  - INSPIRE implementation is very heterogeneous and currently does not allow for pan-European datasets to be constructed.
- **Proposed actions**
  - Develop a prioritisation methodology by considering the new political agenda and existing community legislation (incl. High-Value datasets, Priority Datasets for eReporting, etc.);
  - Consider the use the INSPIRE data with other data sources for creation of pan-European datasets
  - Demonstrate different uses of the data
- **Team**
  - Lead: ENV, ESTAT, EEA
  - Contributors: JRC, MS

2.2 Roadmap for priority-driven implementation

- **Issues**
  - Many parallel implementations of INSPIRE exist that are established only to meet the legal obligations. Maximizing the reuse of national data infrastructures is to be pursued in order to avoid duplication
  - Reusing the outcomes of the “Need-driven data prioritisation”, implementation maturity levels and landing zone expectations for data sets availability (metadata), interoperability and accessibility (network services) should be defined.
- **Proposed actions**
  - Define an INSPIRE implementation plan based on the findings of the “Need-driven data prioritisation”, “Towards the definition of digital ecosystem for the environment and sustainability” and “Simplification” actions
  - Analysis and approaches for reuse of national data infrastructures
- **Team**
  - Lead: ENV
  - Contributors: MS, ESTAT, EEA, JRC

2.3 Simplification of INSPIRE implementation

- **Issues**
  - The implementation of INSPIRE is perceived as too complex by many stakeholders
  - Existing software tools do not adequately reflect the implementation needs
- **Proposed actions**
  - Strong emphasis here is put on ensuring that off the shelf software tools and libraries can be used for implementing INSPIRE requirements (as defined in action 2019.2)
    - Emphasis would be put on technological enablers and minimisation of INSPIRE-specific extensions
    - Simplification and improving data-service linking
  - Bug-fixing of existing components (data models, network services, metadata guidelines)
    - Migrate selected technical guidelines to GitHub in a step-by-step manner
  - NOTE: modernising the infrastructure is addressed in action 1.1.
- **Team**
  - Lead: JRC
  - Contributors: ENV, EEA, ESTAT, MS

2.4 Central INSPIRE infrastructure components

- **Issues**
  - Central INSPIRE components (Geoportal, Validator, Registry, Forum and INSPIRE Knowledge Base) are essential for the implementation and evolution of the INSPIRE infrastructure
  - Long-term sustainability of the solutions should be ensured, also considering the emerging political priorities (Green Deal data space and GreenData4all in particular)
- **Proposed actions**
  - Operate the central infrastructure components, including monitoring and reporting
  - Simplify and align the approaches for different solutions (cloud hosting, interaction with stakeholders / helpdesk, organise extensive use of GitHub)
    - Reuse as much as possible existing (open source) components
    - Establish strategic partnerships with software communities and MS authorities
- **Team**
  - Lead: JRC
  - Contributors: ENV, EEA, MS

3.1 GreenData4all initiative

- **Issues**
  - Mandatory evaluation by the Commission of the INSPIRE Directive by 1 January 2022
  - Modernisation and alignment with new or emerging legislation of the INSPIRE Directive (2007/2/EC) and the public access to environmental information Directive (2003/4/EC) is needed
  - Environmental geospatial and climate-related data are a prerequisite to better understand issues and trends on how our planet and its climate are changing and how society and economy are impacted. The timely availability of data can help strengthen evidence-based analytical capability for policy-making and implementation and is crucial to deliver on the Green Deal objectives

3.1 GreenData4all initiative

- **Proposed actions**
  - The evaluation of the INSPIRE Directive will also analyse the coherence between the INSPIRE Directive, the Public Access to Environmental Information Directive 2003/4/EC and Directive 2019/1024/EC on open data and the re-use of public sector information
  - The evaluation conclusions will feed the ‘Greendata4all’ initiative announced in the European strategy for data (COM(2020) 66 final) and may induce a revision of 2007/2/EC and 2003/4/EC
- **Team**
  - Lead: ENV
  - Contributors: JRC, EEA, ESTAT, MS (as part of the evaluation consultation strategy)

Thank you

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